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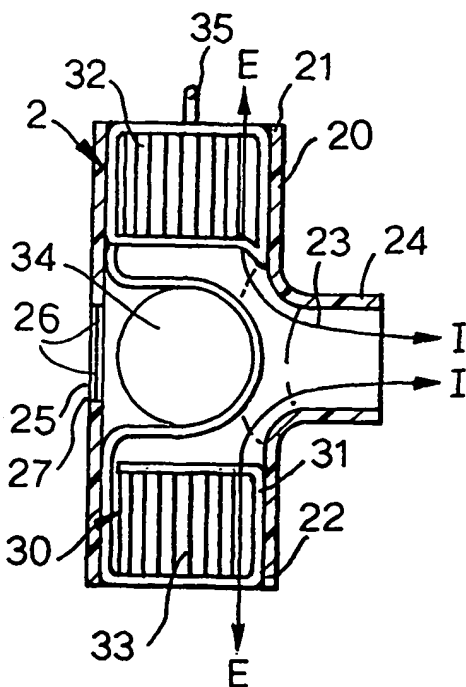
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(54) Title: GAS-TREATMENT DEVICES



(57) Abstract: An HME device (2, 2') for a tracheostomy tube (1) has a housing (20, 20') with an opening (23), which can be connected to the machine end (15) of the tube. A cylindrical HME unit (30, 30') with an HME element (32 and 33) at opposite ends and a blocking plate (34) midway is rotatable within the housing (20). In normal use, the blocking plate (34) is out of alignment with the opening (23) so that gas can flow along the tube (1) through the device (2, 2'). When the patient wishes to speak, he twists the HME unit (30) to align the blocking plate (34) with the opening (23) to block flow and thereby prevent gas emerging from the machine end (15) of the p tube (1) so that it is diverted to the larynx via fenestrations (13) in the side of the tube.

VO 2005/058403 A1



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